

WHITE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2005

An emergency meeting of the White County Board begun and holden this 21st day of January, 2005 in the Courtroom of the White County Courthouse in the City of Carmi.

Chairman Wooten called the meeting to order at noon.

Clerk Dozier called the roll with Nelson, Ray, Mitchell, Trout and Wooten all present.

Chairman Wooten stated that he had called this meeting for the purpose of approving a declaration, which would be the first steps to having the State of Illinois to declare White County a disaster area. Mr. Wooten explained that since White County had received a record snowfall in December, along with 5 inches of rain in the month of January, the rivers were at a record high. Mr. Wooten stated that several homes had been flooded, the County has lost one roadway and bridge and it is impossible to assess other damages until the water recedes. Chairman Wooten asked the Board to consider approval of the following declaration.

DISASTER DECLARATION

WHEREAS, December 22 and 23, 2004 White County received a record amount of snowfall. The Highway Department crews worked around the clock on snow removal, depleting the department's resources;

WHEREAS, in January White County received several inches of rain, which melted the 18 to 19 inches of snowfall and has created flooding along the Skillet Fork, Little Wabash and Wabash Rivers. The floodwaters have closed several roads and bridges, entered homes, and threatened water supplies;

WHEREAS, on January 15, 2005 County Road 1100N (Maunie Blacktop) was severely damaged; isolating the citizens of Maunie. The White County Highway Department has made temporary repairs to County Road 1100N to allow emergency vehicles to travel into Maunie. However, the roadway still remains closed to the public. On January 19th County Road 1100N washed out in the same location requiring the Highway Department to spend numerous hours shoring up that roadway and further depleting their resources;

WHEREAS, the White County Engineer and the County Board will not be able to fully assess all the damages until the floodwaters recede;

WHEREAS, We the White County Board are requesting State-Aid to help with the clean-up and repair of White County;

WHEREAS, your cooperation and consideration in declaring White County a disaster area would be greatly appreciated;

CALL FOR AYE AND/OR NAY VOTE:

Nelson: Aye
Ray: Aye
Mitchell: Aye

Trout: Aye
Wooten: Aye

Passed this 21st day of January 2005.

Ron Wooten, Chairman
White County Board

ATTEST:

Paula Dozier
White County Clerk

Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to approve the declaration, seconded by Trout. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten explained that this step was necessary to get the Governor to declare White County a disaster area so that State and Federal funds would be available to the citizens of White County and to all the governmental entities. Mr. Wooten stated that there were several individuals he would like to thank, the Highway Department crew, O'Daniel Trucking, Hanks Excavating, David Hammel, Bob Sneed with CSX railroad and Corbett Stover. Chairman Wooten explained that all these individuals had played a part on working on County Road 1100N and Mr. Sneed had contacted CSX railroad to have train traffic stopped so that the County could use the railroad for emergencies in to Maunie.

Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Nelson. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.